

[29 November, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

the current year, including loss of human life and property are given in the enclosed Statements. (See below).

(c) A continuous and multi-faceted effort is always underway in the Indian Air Force to enhance and upgrade flight safety. Measures to enhance the quality of training to improve the skill levels, ability to exercise sound judgement and situational awareness of pilots are also pursued. Constant interaction also takes place with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) of concerned countries to overcome the technical defects of aircraft. Besides, anti-bird measures are also undertaken.

Statement

Aircraft crashes

Sl. No.	Date of Accident	Type of Aircraft	Loss of life Service Civilian Loss		Property Pilot Loss personnel	
1.	17th January 2006	MiG-21	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
2.	18th March 2006	Kiran MK-II	Two	Nil	Nil	Damage to crops worth Rs. 28,000/-
3.	21st March 2006	MiG-21	Two	Nil	Nil	Nil
4.	8th June 2006	MiG-29	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
5.	28th September 2006	MiG-29	Nil	Nil		One tractor damaged
6.	19th October 2006	MiG-27	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
7.	21st November 2006	MiG-29	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Free and fair defence deals

742. SHRIMATISHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry of Defence has announced a string of measures aimed at making defence deals free, fair and transparent and to avoid all forms of corruption in the process of bidding;

(b) whether all the defence procurement cases exceeding Rs. 100 crore

require the bidders to sign an integrity pact which provides for an undertaking to avoid all forms of corruption in the process of bidding;

(c) whether the Ministry has also formulated a defence procurement manual and defence procurement procedure; and

(d) if so, to what extent these new measures would be helpful in checking corruption in defence deals?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRIAK. ANTONY): (a) to(d) Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP) 2008 and Defence Procurement Manual (DPM) 2006 have been promulgated with effect from 1 st September, 2006.

In DPP-2006 which covers all Capital Acquisitions, (except medical equipment) undertaken by the Ministry of Defence, following provisions have been included to make the defence deals free, fair and transparent and to avoid all forms of corruption in the process of bidding:

- (i) Major decisions being taken in a 'collegiate' manner.
- (ii) An 'Integrity Pact' between the Government department and the bidder for all contracts above Rs. 100 crores.
- (iii) Enhanced transparency in the conduct of field trials.
- (iv) Pre-bid meetings with the vendors.
- (v) Placing generic requirements of the Services on Ministry of Defence website.
- (vi) Generating vendor registration through the internet.
- (vii) Dealing directly with Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM) or Authorised Vendors or Government Sponsored Export Agencies (applicable in case of countries where domestic laws do not permit direct export by OEMs).
- (viii) Prohibiting the use of undue influence by the seller for obtaining any contract with the Government.
- (ix) Prohibiting the engagement of any individual or firm to recommend to the Government the award of a contract to the seller, and the payment of any amount in respect of any such recommendation.

DPM-2006 covers Revenue Procurements of the Ministry of Defence.

The provisions of DPM-2006 relating to Integrity Pact, pre-bid conference for firming up technical specifications and placing details of award offenders/ contracts in the Website of the Ministry of Defence is to ensure greater transparency and enhancement of serviceability levels, fleet availability of the Services.

As per DPP-2006 the Integrity Pact is a binding agreement between Government Department and bidder for specific contracts in which the Government promises that it will not accept bribes during the procurement process and bidders promise that they will not offer bribes. Any breach of the provisions of the Integrity Pact by the bidder or any one employed by him or acting on his behalf (whether with or without the knowledge of the bidder) shall entitle the Government of India to take actions provided in the Pact against the bidder.

DPP-2006 and DPM-2006 have been placed on the Website of Ministry of Defence (www.mod.nic.in).

Delay in procurement of military hardware and software

743. SHRIVIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined the views expressed at the recent combined commanders' conference, highlighting, *inter alia*, that long delays in procurement of desperately-needed military hardware and software, coupled with tardy progress in-DRDO projects, with unrealistic time-frames, was causing a steady depletion in the war-waging potential of the armed forces;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to speed up the pace for developing and producing indigenously and sourcing from elsewhere the required hardware and software, so that the process of modernization of the defence forces is not derailed?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) The issue of delay in procurement was not discussed in the combined commanders' conference. However, the Chief of the Naval Staff, while highlighting contributions made by the DRDO, emphasized the need for DRDO to be more realistic about developmental time-frames.